Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 10910 231748Z

66
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 CAB-09

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01

FAA-00 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03

DRC-01 /153 W
---------- 038892
R 231734Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3323
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10910

DEPT. PASS TO FAA, AIA-1, AIS-1, ASE-1

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, PINS, UK
SUBJ: CIVAIR - SECURITY AT HEATHROW AIRPORT

REF: STATE 184836

1. THE JACK ANDERSON COLUMN (REF (A)) WAS GIVEN EXTEN-
SIVE RADIO AND PRESS COVERAGE IN THE UK ON AUGUST 22/23,
ALTHOUGH TV COVERAGE WAS MINIMAL.

2. WHILE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERALL AIRPORT SECURITY
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PAGE 02 LONDON 10910 231748Z

IN THE DEPT. OF TRADE WERE COOL, THE SECURITY PEOPLE AT

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

THE BRITISH AIRPORTS AUTHORITY WERE HOPPING MAD. ONE CALLER SAID THAT IF (REPEAT) IF IT WERE TRUE AS REPORTED TO HIM THAT TWO FAA INSPECTORS HAD POSED AS TWA AND PANAM EMPLOYEES TO CHECK HEATHROW SECURITY, THEN TWA AND PANAM WOULD "FIND LIFE DIFFICULT IN FUTURE." HE WAS ASSUMING THAT TWA AND PANAM MIGHT HAVE COOPERATED WITH THE ALLEGED COVERT OPERATION OF THE TWO FAA MEN.

3. IN ADDITION TO THE IRRITATION EXPRESSED AT THE ANDERSON REVELATION, THE BRITISH RIGHTFULLY FEEL "BETRAYED" BY THEIR AMERICAN COLLEAGUES. BRITISH HAVE NOT EXPERIENCED A HIJACKING IN OVER FOUR YEARS AND QUITE UNDERSTANDINGLY BELIEVE THEY ARE DOING A REASONABLY GOOD JOB IN AIRPORT SECURITY. MOREOVER, THEY HAVE ALWAYS SHOWN WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH US ON SECURITY MATTERS. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT IN LONDON 4229 WE URGED AN EARLY MEETING BETWEEN QUALIFIED U.S. SECURITY EXPERTS AND THEIR UK COUNTERPARTS. THE UK OFFICIALS INDICATED THEY WOULD WELCOME SUCH DISCUSSIONS. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THESE MEETINGS NEVER TOOK PLACE. IN VIEW OF OUR SERIOUSLY STRAINED RELATIONS WITH THE BRITISH ON THIS SENSITIVE AIRPORT SECURITY MATTERS, WE URGE THAT THIS MEETING TAKE PLACE AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

4. WE HAVE USED THE GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN REF A IN REPLYING TO INQUIRIES FROM THE PRESS. HOWEVER REACTION WAS THAT IT WAS A "STONE WALL" STATEMENT.

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: SECURITY, AIRPORTS, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740234-0258
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - SECURITY AT HEATHROW AIRPORT
TAGS: EAIR, PINS, UK, FAA
To: STATE BRUSSELS
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